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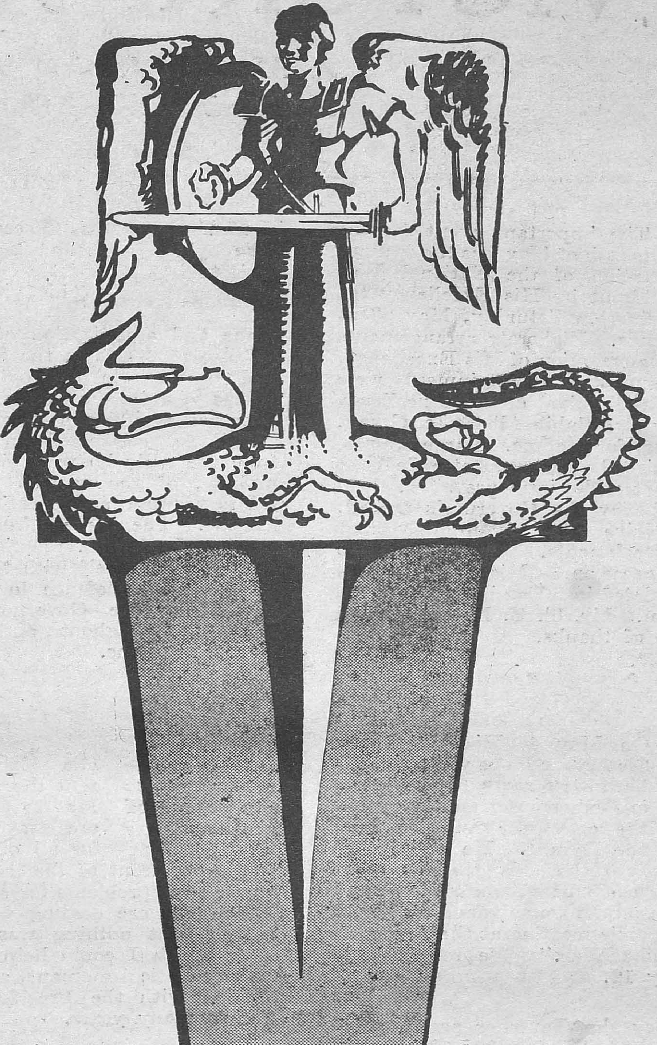
A MONTHLY BULLETIN RECORDING THE MADRAS WAR EFFORT



BRITAIN: CHINA: INDIA:

VICTORY

RUSSIA: AMERICA:

VOL. I No. 9 MAY 1942

VICTORY

A Monthly Review of the Madras War Effort

National War Front Inauguration The important event for the month of May was the inauguration of the National War Front by His Excellency the Governor of Madras on Saturday, May 23 at the Island Grounds. Elaborate arrangements were made for the reception of His Excellency. Music, fencing and other entertainments were arranged before the arrival of His Excellency the Governor by Rao Sahib Albert Jesudasan, District Organizer for Madras. Large crowds, besides distinguished visitors, attended the meeting and great enthusiasm prevailed. Soon after His Excellency the Governor's arrival, there was a drive past of military and civil defence detachments. A film was also taken on the occasion. His Excellency's speech was translated into Tamil by Rao Sahib Albert Jesudasan. Mr. T. S. Nataraja Pillai proposed a vote of thanks.

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H.E. The Governor's Visit to Coimbatore and other places On May 4, His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope visited Coimbatore *en route* from Madras to Ootacamund and inspected the camp for refugees from the Levant. He also looked into the arrangements made for the evacuation of offices from Madras, and granted interviews. At Ootacamund on May 7 he addressed a public meeting at the Assembly Rooms on "The War." He returned to Madras on May 12.

His Excellency the Governor accompanied His Excellency the Viceroy from Madras to Vizagapatam on May 14 where His Excellency the Governor addressed a public meeting.

On May 25 and 26, His Excellency carried out an inspection of military and civil defence units and locations in Cochin.

On May 31, His Excellency addressed a public meeting at Kotagiri. A purse of over Rs. 5,000 was presented to His Excellency the Governor by the public towards the War Fund.

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H. E. The Viceroy's Visit to Madras His Excellency the Viceroy visited Madras between 12th and 14th May. The purpose of his visit was to acquaint himself more fully with the plans and organization of military and civil defence measures in the city and Presidency, and to stimulate both official and non-official efforts to unite the people in a common determination against aggression. On May 13, His Excellency conducted an inspection, lasting from the early hours of the morning till after midday, of the various British and Indian military units and locations in and around Madras. The same afternoon, he watched a full-scale A.R.P. practice, during which he acquainted himself with the position and progress of civil defence in Madras City. His Excellency the Governor accompanied the Viceroy throughout both the military and civil inspections.

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A Message to the people of Madras His Excellency the Viceroy sent the following message to Madras from Delhi: "These are grave and anxious days for all of us, and Madras is in the forefront of the battle. I have wished to see your problems for myself, to meet again those who are dealing with them, to satisfy myself that nothing was being left undone over which I could help you, and to renew, at this critical moment, a friendship and association with the Presidency that has lasted for so many years.

"Short as my visit has inevitably had to be, I am happy indeed to find Madras and its people in excellent heart. I have every confidence in their spirit. I trust they may be spared the pain of war in their own country. But, if the call comes, I am sure that they will acquit themselves with the utmost credit.

"I have in my short visit inspected the defences of this part of India. I find them steadily improving as indeed you may all of you see for yourselves. You may rest assured that that expansion and consolidation will continue. I am glad to see the work of A.R.P.

and civil defence in such good shape. And it has been a deep satisfaction and a real encouragement to me to inspect so many of the troops stationed in the Presidency, to see for myself their keenness, their efficiency, their martial spirit, and to know how strong and substantial a barrier they are to enemy aggression.

" Madras has made already a great contribution to War Effort. But she can do more still, and I call on her to do it. She can in particular by energetic and whole-hearted support of the National War Front buttress the work of the fighting forces who are defending her, and present to the enemy that solid unity that is so vital. I look to you, one and all, under the inspiring lead—never lacking—of your Governor, to play your part. What is at stake is the safety of your country, the safety of your homes. The call is insistent and immediate—let there be no falterers among us to-day: let us unite and stand together for India. To the historic tradition of this great Presidency, I know that my appeal will not be in vain."

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The following reply was sent by His Excellency the Governor to His Excellency the Viceroy:

H. E. The Governor's reply to H. E. The Viceroy's Message " On behalf of the people of Madras, I tender to Your Excellency our grateful thanks for your generous and inspiring message. Your welcome visit has assured us of the close and personal care devoted by Your Excellency to all measures necessary for countering and beating back any attempt to attack our shores. If times of greater trial should come, we in this Presidency are determined that we shall not fail India in her hour of need, but shall stand with firm front by our fighting forces till Victory is won."

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Madras Governor's War Fund. Contributions to the above Fund including amounts previously collected for His Excellency the Governor's War Charities Appeal Fund amounted on the 1st June 1942 to RS. 2,04,50,674 11 7

Details of disbursements.

	RS.	A.	P.
By His Excellency the Governor's War Charities Appeal Fund prior to the closing of that Fund and to the handing over of the undisbursed balance to the Madras Governor's War Fund ..	2,52,060	13	6
By the Madras Governor's War Fund :—			
To specific charities and to the Joint War Charities Committee earmarked in accordance with the wishes of donors ..	11,54,982	4	2
By Air Ministry, London, for cost of Aircraft for Madras Squadrons ..	1,66,00,000	0	0
By Indian Air Force ..	10,50,000	0	0
By Government of India (Defence Department) for purchase of armoured carriers ..	4,10,000	0	0
By Madras Flying Club o/a Scholarships Trainer Aircraft Parachutes and other equipment and for training Flying Instructors, etc. ..	3,08,970	3	1
By His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, etc., for Indian Defence Purposes earmarked in accordance with the wishes of donors ..	12,547	14	6
By Relief of Evacuees ..	18,940	14	5
By Salvation Army for the entertainment of and supply of meals to troops ..	3,000	0	0
By purchase of motor boat, Station wagon, etc., from amounts earmarked for M. & S. M. Railway Rayapuram District Armoured Car Fund ..	6,600	0	0
	1,98,17,102	1	8
By Balance as at close of business on 1st June 1942 ..	6,33,572	9	11

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Recruitment Sub-Committee *Club for Indian Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen.*—This club was informally opened on May 24 for Indian Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen who pass through Madras on leave. It will be formally opened by His Excellency the Governor shortly.

Recruitment.—The Madras Provincial Selection Board met twice during this month and interviewed 94 candidates.

The Board selected 26 candidates for Land Forces;

6 for the Air Force,
3 for the Indian Navy, and
5 for pre-cadet training.

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District Recruitment Sub-Committee The District War Recruitment Sub-Committee recommended 26 candidates out of 37 interviewed for enrolment in the Army, Navy and Air Force.

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Force The following were granted Commissions in the Civil [illegible]er Force :—

To be Captain.—Mr. T. A. Narasimhalu Naidu.

To be Lieutenants.—Mr. J. A. Isaacs and Mr. J. Koshi.

To be Second Lieutenants.—Mr. T. C. Muniratnam, Mr. P. Satyanarayanamurti, Mr. W. J. Chellappa and Mr. Noorul Hasan Chida.

These officers have proceeded to Dehra Dun to undergo a course of training at the Indian Military Academy.

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Propaganda Sub-Committee There was a meeting of the Propaganda Sub-Committee on May 4.

A symposium on "We must fight the Japanese," containing extracts from the views expressed by distinguished persons, e.g., His Excellency General Wavell, Mr. M. K. Gandhi, Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, Mr. M. A. Jinnah, Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu, Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar and others which had been prepared was issued.

The Committee thought that some investigation should be made into the frequent breakdown of the Propaganda vans working in the various districts and their consequent lying out of use for long periods. The Director of War Publicity took up the matter immediately and made arrangements to minimise the delay by deputing two van inspectors to inspect the vans periodically and to deal with the defects that required to be attended to in the mofussil during their visits.

In respect of using radio talks for the composition of leaflets, it was pointed out to the Committee that what made a good talk was quite often poor reading matter; besides radio talks were based on topical events and as such would lose their value before they can be distributed as leaflets.

It was brought to the notice of the Committee that it would be desirable at this juncture to have something more than propaganda by leaflets and that such of the members of the Committee as might tour in the mofussil might try to address meetings and that the Director of War Publicity would be pleased to write to the Chairmen of the respective District Committees to arrange for the same

Diwan Bahadur R. V. Krishna Ayyar requested to be relieved of the office of the Secretaryship of the Committee. The Committee accepted the resignation and placed on record its highest appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Diwan Bahadur R. V. Krishna Ayyar as Secretary of the Committee for a period of two years.

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Leaflets The following leaflets were issued by the office of the Director of War Publicity in the month of **May :—**

"Indian Heroes of the War" (in Telugu and Malayalam): "Why Hitler will lose the War" (in Tamil); "War Song" (in Telugu); "Japan in China" (in Tamil and Telugu); "War Song" (in Tamil); "We must fight the Japanese" (English).

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Films The following Film Advisory Board's war films were exhibited in the various theatres in Presidency :—

"War and Order"; "Mercy Brigade"; "Citizen Firemen". One A.R.P. film, "Madras must not burn," produced by the Gemini Studios, was also exhibited in the mofussil.

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Posters The following posters were issued: "Civil Pioneer Force"; "National War Front"; (*a*) "Join Us" and (*b*) "Ship of State."

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Joint War Charities Depot The stock of hospital supplies in the depot grew again after its recent depletion, but the main activity during May was the provision of amenities for troops. A scheme is on foot for sending to the Madras units serving in other parts of India consignments of amenities from their own Province, to show them that they are not forgotten at home, and to provide them with those Southern products which may not be available where they are. The scheme has been welcomed by the Commanding Officers of the units concerned, who have sent to the depot requests for books and papers in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kanarese, snuff and beedies, carrom, badminton and volley ball, poppadams, tamarinds and pickles, as well as gramophones

and records. The depot packs large supplies of all these, and would welcome any contributions, particularly gramophones. The name of the donor would be affixed to all individual gifts. Many calls were made during the month on the Red Cross service for tracing the missing in the Far East. Enquiries for military regular personnel should be made through the Defence Department, New Delhi, and for civilian personnel, Indian and British, in areas occupied by the Japanese, through the Department of Indians Overseas; but for non-regular personnel and local Defence Forces, enquiries may be made through the Red Cross. Unfortunately these are bound to take time, as they have to go through the International Red Cross at Geneva and neutral Consular agents; but results have been achieved in this way.

In spite of the recently reported declaration of the Argentine Ambassador that correspondence with prisoners in Japanese-occupied territories is now being carried by air, we have no information to this effect from the Red Cross Headquarters. Any such information will be published in the papers.

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Publicity Staff A part-time Malayalam journalist was appointed to the Press Section of the Office of the Director of War Publicity with effect from May 1st. The first issue of the Malayalam counterpart of the *Madras War Review* was published on May 8th. An Urdu counterpart of the *War Review* is likely to be issued next month.

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A.R.P. in Madras As a result of the large scale exodus of the population from Madras City during April, there was a considerable fall in the number of volunteer personnel, especially wardens. On 14th May 1942, the number of volunteer wardens who were regularly reporting for duty was 1,294. One thousand and twenty-five staff wardens (paid) have been enlisted up to 30th April 1942. The Government have noted with satisfaction that for the alert which was sounded on 7th April 1942, a great majority of staff and voluntary wardens reported for duty as also the ambulances, first-aid and rescue personnel stationed at Combined Depots.

For the 28 first-aid posts in the city, there were at the end of April, 88 doctors, 158 nurses and 238 first-aiders as against 98 doctors, 166 nurses and 271 first-aiders at the end of March. For the five first-aid posts in the mufassal, there were 12 doctors, 10 nurses and 35 first-aiders. The number of first-aid parties available at the end of April was 97.

The strength of the Madras Fire Services has not been seriously affected by the recent exodus, though there were several resignations of both paid and voluntary firemen and telephone operators.

Consequent on the closure of several hotels in the city during the month, messes were organized for the A.R.P. personnel, both paid and voluntary, in the divisional headquarters, Combined Depots, etc.

House to house propaganda is being carried on by the A.R.P. wardens. Twenty thousand copies of the folder entitled 'Siren signals and their meaning' were distributed during the month. The Madras A.R.P. film 'Madras must not burn' was exhibited in the city theatres.

A.R.P. measures are now in force in 25 towns in the Province. Special A.R.P. Officers have been appointed for all the areas and they are busy organizing A.R.P. schemes with the assistance of local A.R.P. Committees.

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A.R.P. Medical Organization (i) *Staff Officers.*—Besides the two medical and two non-medical staff officers, one more medical staff officer, Dr. J. I. Robello sanctioned in G.O. Ms No. P.N. 2, Public (Civil Defence), dated 14th April 1942, joined duty on 27th April 1942. He is put in charge of the five mobile first-aid posts and the five fixed first-aid posts in the five area hospitals and also of the five fixed first-aid posts in the mufassal.

(A) City.

(ii) *First-aid posts.*—On account of the recent evacuation from the city, there has been a reduction in the number of doctors, nurses and first-aiders. For the 28 city first-aid posts, there are now 88 doctors, 158 nurses and 238 first-aiders (voluntary 177 and paid 61) against 98 doctors, 166 nurses and 271 first-aiders (voluntary 235 and paid 36) last month.

(B) Mufassal.

For the five first-aid posts, there are now 12 doctors, 10 nurses and 35 first-aiders (voluntary 20 and paid 15) against 11 doctors, 8 nurses and 22 first-aiders (voluntary 17 and paid 5) last month.

(iii) *First-aid parties.*—Out of 155 parties required, there are now 97 parties (voluntary 37 and paid 60) against 113 parties (voluntary 49 and paid 64) last month. The number of parties is reduced from 113 to 97 on account of recent evacuation. The medical equipment required for 109 parties have already been distributed to the 12 depots and those required for the remaining parties are kept ready in stock. Advanced intensive training in stretcher drill and team work is being given by Instructors and Group Leaders in all depots.

(iv) *Ambulances.*—Out of 77 ambulances required, there are now 34 ambulances (32 A.R.P. owned and two war charities). Besides these, three ambulances belonging to the General Hospital, one belonging to the Women

and Children Hospital, one belonging to the Mental Hospital and one belonging to Theosophical Society, Adyar, are also available during emergency. Six ambulances are now manned by the lady volunteers and the rest by paid drivers. Out of 72 attendants appointed, 15 are voluntary and 57 are paid. The 34 ambulances are provided with medical and other equipment. The equipment for the remaning ambulances is kept in stock.

(v) *Cars for first-aid parties.*—There are now 114 cars, out of which 86 are A.R.P. owned and 28 offered by volunteers. The cars are equipped with stretchers and other equipment.

(vi) *Cars for sitting cases.*—Out of 52 cars required, there are now 25 cars, all offered by volunteers.

(vii) *Mobile first-aid posts.*—Out of five mobile vehicles, two have been received from Simpson & Co. They are fully equipped with medical and other equipment. One of them is stationed in Stanley Hospital and the other in the Royapetta Hospital. The conversion of the remaining three has not yet been completed on account of the strike in Simpsons. The medical and other equipment required for these three are also available in the Stores. The personnel required for these units are kept ready and are being trained in the five hospitals.

(viii) *Feeding arrangements.*—The first-aiders and other personnel attached to depots are being fed free at depots. Those attached to first-aid posts are fed in the divisional headquarters. The voluntary as well as the paid personnel are fed.

(ix) *Evacuation allowance.*—During this month, evacuation advance was given to paid first-aiders at the rate of Rs. 30 to be recovered in three equal monthly instalments as per G.O. Ms. No. P.N. 1, Public (Civil Defence) Department, dated 14th April 1942

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St. John Ambulance Association and Brigade

A course of lectures in A.R.P. and anti-gas measures was arranged in the Government General Hospital, Madras, from the 8th to 15th April 1942, for the training of nursing staff from vulnerable mofussil stations. Arrangements were also made for them to visit area hospitals and first-aid posts in the city. One Matron from Madura and four War Sisters from Cocanada, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore and Calicut attended this course. All of them passed in the examination held on 15th April 1942. The Government were pleased to sanction their deputation for attending the course and sanctioned travelling allowance as on tour.

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t. John Ambulance in the mofussil

In the Tinnevelly Branch of St. John Ambulance, out of the 481 candidates who had completed their training in First Aid, 281 were examined. One hundred and eighty-five candidates who were successful in the examination were awarded certificates.

Local centres of St. John Ambulance Association have been formed at Rajahmundry and Palamcottah. An ambulance division with a strength of 19 has been formed at Ellore and another division is under formation at Ongole

The Madras City centre of the association has arranged for the training of further A.R.P. personnel in first aid. The Transport Division had two calls from the Military Hospital and 27 calls from the Indian Military Hospital for transporting wounded and sick troops. Two members of this division took the officers of the Public Health Department in their ambulances for recruiting men for the Madras Cholera Relief Party.

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P.W.D. Buildings and A.R.P.

Static water-supply.—Nearly 40 tanks have been completed during the month, making a total of 70 up to end of the month. Sites selected and works are in different stages of progress in the case of nearly 30 tanks. Two tanks by guniting process have been completed. Investigation for filling in storm water-drains with water from the Cooum and the Buckingham Canal was taken up this month, with the co-operation of Corporation authorities.

Street shelters and trenches.—The question of providing shelters along bus-routes were taken up and about 40 sites selected during the month. Work will be started soon in these cases.

Aided schools and colleges.—The preparation of estimates for the above (which was kept under abeyance till now) was taken up this month and work will be started on many of them as early as possible.

General.—The cement situation has become an acute problem this month and supply has been received too short of expectations, due to Military and Central Public Works Department taking away the whole lot; consequently many of the A.R.P. works had to be stopped for want of cement. Vigorous effort is being made to get the supply of cement, by all possible means.

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Department of Agriculture

Finance.—A sum of Rupees 62–8–9 was contributed by the members of the department towards His Excellency the Governor's War Fund. Defence Savings Certificates and stamps worth Rs. 75-12-0 were purchased and a sum of Rs. 149–8–0 was paid towards Defence Provident Fund.

Propaganda.—The usual activities of the members of the district staff in educating the masses about the present war situation were continued. The war poster " Don't Rumour," supplied by the Tahsildar, Anakapalle, which was exhibited at the Agricultural Research Station, Anakapalle, did much service in educating the masses. War propaganda lectures with magic lantern slides were conducted in villages of Nilgiris district. The villagers of Kudulu village near Kasaragod, South Kanara, were instructed by the Superintendent, at the Agricultural Research Station, Kasaragod, in war efforts.

Recruitment.—The Agricultural Demonstrator, Udayarpalayam, recommended nine applicants for war service to the Collector of Trichinopoly. The Assistant Agricultural Demonstrator, Arni, helped half-a-dozen young men to enlist themselves as sepoys. Mr. James Colaco, Agricultural Demonstrator of this department, was selected for the cadet officers' training at Bangalore.

Civil defence.—Some of the officers of the Agricultural College, who have not attended the A.R.P. lectures before did so this month. A fire-fighting demonstration was conducted in the cotton-breeding station, Agricultural College, and Research Institute, Coimbatore, and was attended by members of the staff.

Entertainments.—The Agricultural Demonstrator, Masulipatam, took active part in the sale of tickets for the Telugu dramas held at Gudivada and Masulipatam in aid of the War Fund. The National War Front Day celebrations were attended by some of the members of this department in the districts.

Miscellaneous.—In connexion with the production of more food crops, intensive propaganda was conducted by the members of the district staff. In this connexion a special tour was undertaken by the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Coimbatore, in Madura and Trichinopoly district. He delivered fourteen lectures in the paddy-growing centres. Particulars of names of stockists of vegetable seeds on the Nilgiris and names of firms who are interested in the manufaucture of lime and lemon juices were furnished to the Controller of Supplies, Madras.

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District activities augmenting H. E. The Governor's War Fund

In **Nellore** district, a drama was arranged by the headmistress of the Girls' School, Kovur, which realized Rs. 171. *Lava Kusa*, a drama, was staged at Podili and Darsi. A sum of Rs. 5,186–5–0 was collected.

In Coimbatore district, a drama was staged at Gobichettipalaiyam which realized rupees 4,050.

In **Tinnevelly** district, two dramas were enacted by the Harvey Mills, Ambasamudram, which realized Rs. 2,520–0–11.

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National War Front Mufassal meetings.

In **Kurnool** district, National War Front was inaugurated at various public meetings held all over the district on May 23rd, when His Excellency the Governor's message was read and explained and actually broadcast where facilities were available. At the meeting held at Kurnool, which was largely attended, the District Organiser, the Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer and prominent non-officials addressed the meeting.

In **Chittoor** district, well-attended public meetings were held in all taluk headquarters. The Collector of Chittoor presided at the public meeting held at Chittoor which was largely attended by officials and non-officials. At Tirupati, the Sub-Collector, Chandragiri, arranged for the dramatisation of war stories which attracted a large and appreciative audience.

In **Tinnevelly** district, apart from the public meetings held all over the district, a special meeting was held at the Centenary Hall, Palamcottah, presided over by the Collector. In the course of a speech, the President explained the significance of the National War Front and the united resistance all should offer to Japanese aggression. Mr. D. Sambasivam Pillai, District Educational Officer, in the course of a speech, appealed for unity. The pledge was read and all stood up in token of acceptance. At night, another public meeting was held in front of Swami Nellaiappar Temple, which was also presided over by the Collector. More than 5,000 people were present. Mr. T. S. Ramalingam read and explained the meaning of the pledge in Tamil. The entire audience stood up and took the pledge. Mr. Amir Sultan, Mr. M. V. Subramaniam and Dr. R. V. Chockalingam also made speeches on the occasion. National War Front. Committees were formed by the District Organizer in four villages in Nanguneri taluk. Sir P. T. Rajan, Regional Leader, inaugurated the National War Front at a crowded meeting at Koilpatti. He made a stirring appeal for unitq. Among the other speakers were Messrs. T. S. Ramalingam, Doraiswami Pillai, Public Prosecutor, Ramnad, A. K. Bijili Saheb, Guruswami Dikshit and B. R. Chakravarthi Ayyangar. At Tisayanvilai, the Secretary of the District War Committee presided over a meeting. The pledge was taken, the entire audience standing. Two public meetings were held at Melapalayam and Pettai, presided over by the Revenue Divisional Officer and the Collector, respectively.

Meetings were held all over **West Godavari** district when His Excellency the Governor's message was read and explained.

In **South Arcot** district, a public meeting was held at Cuddalore. The District Judge presided. The Collector of the district presided over a public meeting held at Gingee. He read and explained His Excellency the

Governor's message. Messrs. Muthunarayana Reddiyar and G. Devanathaswami Nayudu also addressed the meeting. Dr. B. V. Narayanaswami Nayudu of the Annamalai University presided over a meeting held at Chidambaram. At Tindivanam, the Sub-Collector presided over a meeting. At Tirukoilur also a meeting was held.

In **Chingleput** district, meetings were held at all taluk headquarters. His Excellency the Governor's message was read and explained on the occasion.

In **Trichinopoly** district, public meetings were held throughout the district in all important towns and villages. All the meetings were well-attended. At the meeting held at Trichinopoly, which was presided over by the Collector, speeches were made by officials and non-officials on the importance of resisting Fascist powers and offering fight to the Japanese. National War Front posters were exhibited at all these meetings.

Meetings were held in all the important centres in **Coimbatore** district.

In **Nellore** district, public meetings were held in towns and villages when His Excellency the Governor's message was read and explained.

In **Guntur** district, the District Collector and the District Organiser were present at a meeting held in Chirala, which was addressed by Mr. J. Kuppuswami Chowdari, ex-M.L.C. Other meetings held in other parts of the district, were also well attended.

In **Ramnad** district, mass meetings with processions, marked the inauguration of the National War Front. Pamphlets relating to the National War Front were distributed all over the district.

In **Salem** district, meetings were held in all the important centres in the district which were addressed by officials and non-officials.

In **Tanjore** district, public meetings were held all over the district which were largely-attended.

Largely-attended meetings were held all over **Bellary** district, when His Excellency the Governor's message was read and explained. Speeches were made by officials and non-officials in Telugu, Canarese and Urdu explaining the objects of the National War Front and impressing on the people the necessity for resisting the Japanese in as much as they were no friends of India or Indians. The Collector of Bellary presided over a meeting held at Hospet. At a meeting held at Alur, an evacuee from Burma gave a lecture on his experiences and exhorted the people to resist the Japanese. The Collector presided over a meeting held at Harpanahalli also. The District Organizer addressed a meeting at Kudligi.

In **Cuddapah** district, a mass meeting was held in the Cuddapah Town Municipal High School grounds, which was presided over by the District Judge. The Collector of Cuddapah presided over a meeting held in Kodur.

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Propaganda meetings In **Kurnool** district, 29 meetings were held at Peapally. There was also a public meeting in Dhore taluk which was well-attended. The present war situation was explained clearly at these meetings. It was pointed out that the Axis powers were losing and there was therefore no need for panic. It was to the interest of the people to strengthen the hands of the Government with money, men and material in their fight against the forces of evil.

In **Cuddapah** district, meetings were held at Proddatur, and at Cuddapah town in the Government Girls' School, by the members of the Propaganda Sub-Committee. With the aid of posters and pamphlets, the speakers made their lectures forceful and impressive. They infused a spirit of confidence and courage in the minds of the people.

In **South Arcot** district, 19 propaganda meetings were held which were addressed by officials and non-officials. Slides and films were also exhibited.

In **Anantapur** district, besides propaganda meetings, war films such as "Mobile Canteen" and "Made in India" were exhibited in all cinema theatres in the district which drew good audiences.

In **Chingleput** district, meetings were held in all rural areas according to the programmes drawn up by the Divisional War Committees. Pamphlets and leaflets were distributed, including a large number of copies of the pamphlet containing His Excellency the Viceroy's and His Excellency the Governor's messages. Slides showing the amenities provided for Indian troops proved highly popular. The Director of War Publicity visited Chingleput and Conjeeveram on May 11 and 12, respectively. He inspected Reading Circles and addressed meetings.

In **Chittoor** district, Revenue Divisional Officers and gazetted and non-gazetted officers held a number of propaganda meetings. The Collector of the district held a good number of meetings at *jamabandies* in connexion with recruitment and war effort.

In **Malabar** district, propaganda meetings and lantern lectures were held all over the district. War films entitled "Passive Defence", "Rescue Men", etc., screened in the theatres at Calicut and Palghat proved very popular.

The Director of War Publicity paid a visit to **Trichinopoly** and addressed a meeting.

In **Nellore** district, 13 propaganda meetings were held in Kavali division, 12 in Kandukur division, 13 in Nellore division and 39 in Gudur division. The District Collector held two meetings in Kovur taluk and two in Kandukur taluk and one in Nellore taluk. The Taluk War Committees of Rapur and Venkatagiri held one and four meetings, respectively. All these meetings were well-attended. Officers of the Agricultural department carried on good propaganda work in villages. Lantern slides were shown in the touring cinema at Venkatagiri and at the cinema at Kavali. The war film "Mercy Brigade" shown at Nellore was much appreciated.

In **Ramnad** district, the Executive Committee of the District War Committee reviewed the work of each group. Mass meetings were held in all the important towns and villages.

In **Salem** district, four propaganda meetings were held in all important centres. The war film "Japanese Phosphorus Bomb" was screened at a local cinema. It was much appreciated by the public.

In **Tanjore** district, pamphlets, leaflets and other war literature were distributed at public meetings held all over the district. The war film "Rescue Men" was screened at a local cinema. "Morale" slide also was exhibited.

In **West Godavari** district, mass meetings were held in all important centres, where was literature was freely distributed. Educational authorities carried on good propaganda in village schools on India's duty in the present situation. Deacon Meshack of the Slums of India Mission, Madras, addressed several propaganda meetings.

In **Bellary** district, war literature was distributed freely at public meetings held all over the district. Lantern slides were exhibited in the cinemas.

In **Tinnevelly** district, magic lantern lectures were delivered by the Health Inspector, Koilpatti, during the cattle fair at Pasuvandanai. The Municipal Health Officer, Tinnevelly, arranged 22 lantern lectures with the help of Sanitary Inspectors. The war slides had a good reception everywhere. The District Health Officer, Tinnevelly, arranged 33 lantern lectures as follows: Tenkasi taluk 11; Koilpatti taluk 93; Tinnevelly taluk 12; Trichendur taluk 11.

The following films were also exhibited at the cinema at Ambasamudram and Tuticorin which had large and appreciative audiences: "Rescue Men," "War Time Factory Home," "Australia Marches with Britian," "Indian Heroes Honoured." "Convoy from India," and "Made in India."

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Reading Circles

In **Tinnevelly** district, all the Reading Circles functioned satisfactorily. The Taluk Officers supervised the work allotted to them in the villages.

In **South Arcot** district, all the 649 circles did good work. The Director of War Publicity inspected the following circles in Tindivanam taluk and the Reading Circle at Vikravandi in Villupuram taluk: Olakkur, Saram, Kaveripakkam, Gidangal, Jaggampet, Singanur, Thenpasiur.

In **Chingleput** district, the existing Reading Circles functioned satisfactorily.

In **Nellore** district, the Women's Reading Circles started in Rapur taluk proved very popular. Two more circles were formed. All the circles were supervised by officials and non-officials. The Victory and Information Bureau at Kandukur worked satisfactorily.

In **Salem** district, two Reading Circles were newly formed in Namakkal division.

In **Tanjore** district, all the 767 circles continued to do good work. There is at present one circle for every village having a population of more than 1,000. All the circles were visited from time to time by the Revenue Divisional Officers, Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors. Copies of "War in Pictures" were distributed to all the circles. The Reading Circles helped a great deal in connection with the inauguration of the National War Front in various places.

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Recruitment in the Districts

In **Kurnool** district, recruitment to the military categories and to the Civil Pioneer Force proceeded satisfactorily. For the military 141 recruits, and 210 recruits for the Civil Pioneer Force were obtained. The subordinate officers and members of the War Committees carried on propaganda to enrol War Technicians. The District Selection Committee intervewed 7 applicants for appointment as War Technicians and selected one candidate.

In **Chittoor** District, the Assistant Recruiting Officer and Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer toured in all parts of the district for recruiting purposes. Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars gave them assistance.

In **Guntur** District, 88 recruits were obtained for the army.

In **Cuddapah** District, one candidate was interviewed for an Emergency Commission. For the Civil Pioneer Force, 281 men were recruited. The Assistant Technical Recruiting Officer, Madras, camped at Cuddapah and the Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars gave him valuable help. The Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer and the Honorary Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer toured in the district. The Revenue subordinates rendered yeoman service in recruitment work.

In **Tinnevelly** District, public meetings were held in various places such as Vikramansingapuram (Ambasamudram taluk); Sattankulam (Trichendur taluk); Eral (Srivaikuntam taluk) and Tisayanvilai (Nanguneri taluk). Two recruits volunteered on the spot at Vikramasingapuram, 52 in Eral and 3 in Tisayanvilai. The two applicants sent up by the Committee for Emergency Commission were approved by the Provincial Selection Board. The District Selection Committee selected 15 candidates as War Technicians. Lieut. C. H. Owen, Officer-in-Charge of the Recruitment Party of the Corps of Indian Engineers, visited Tinnevelly for selecting candidates. Out of the 28 who appeared, 4 were selected. The party consisting of a Pilot Officer and the Assistant Technical Recruiting Officer visited Tinnevelly and selected 13 out of 23 candidates interviewed for the Air Force. The total number of recruits sent up by the Assistant Recruiting Officer, Tinnevelly, was 750. The progressive total for the district up to the end of May was 5,610.

In **South Arcot** District, the Recruitment Committee interviewed 24 candidates and selected 22 as War Technicians. The Technical Recruiting Officer, Pudupet, Madras, intimated that 61 men were recruited under different categories. The Civil officers rendered great help to the Military officers in the matter of recruitment. The total recruitment to the army numbered 324.

In **Anantapur** District, the Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer recruited 138 men, out of whom 92 were selected by the Assistant Recruiting Officer, Bangalore. For the Civil Pioneer Force, 290 men were recruited.

In **Chingleput** District, 156 were recruited by the Recruiting Officer. The Recruitment Sub-Committee interviewed 8 candidates for Emergency Commissions.

In **Malabar** District, out of the 11 candidates interviewed for Emergency Commissions, 4 were recommended. Seventy-seven candidates were selected as War Technicians. The Recruitment Officers also recruited 9 clerks, 10 sweepers and 5 artisans.

In **Trichinopoly** District, the Recruitment Sub-Committee interviewed 3 candidates for Emergency Commissions. The Technical Recruiting Officer, Bangalore, reported that 14 men were recruited for the various branches of the army. The Assistant Recruiting Officer recruited over 200 men for the various branches of service.

In the Education and Public Health Department, scavengers and maistries were recruited for the Burma-Assam Frontier.

In **Coimbatore** District, the Recruitment Sub-Committee selected candidates for the Emergency Commissions. Revenue officials assisted the Recruiting officers in recruitment work.

In **Nellore** District, printed copies of a pamphlet containing details of the concessions afforded to soldiers, particularly in the matter of appointment to Government service after the war, were widely distributed. There was a large number of recruits to the army. Revenue officials rendered all possible help to the two Extra Assistant Recruiting Officers.

In **Ramnad** District, the Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer, Virudhunagar, recruited 154 men to the army. At Sivaganga, 36 men were recruited. One candidate applied for Emergency Commission. Fifty-seven were selected as War Technicians.

In **Salem** District, 340 men were recruited to the army.

In **Tanjore** District, intensive recruitment propaganda was carried on by officers of the Revenue department. The Recruiting party of the Indian Signal Corps headed by Capt. Davidson gave an impressive demonstration of the work done by the members of the Indian Signal Corps. The District Selection Committee selected 22 as War Technicians.

In **West Godavari** district, 20 were recruited in Narasapur and 5 in Tumkur taluk to the army. In Bhimavaram taluk 12 were recruited and 10 from Kovur taluk. Mr. S. I. Moses of Narasapur and the Rev. G. Samuel of Kovur assisted a great deal in recruitment work.

In **Bellary** District, 166 men were recruited to the army. Intensive propaganda was carried on.

Following are the statistics available for the districts :—

Recruitment to the Army.—Tinnevelly 750; Salem 340; South Arcot 324; Trichinopoly 214; Ramnad 190; Bellary 166; Chingleput 156; Kurnool 141; Guntur 88; West Godavari 47.

Civil Pioneer Force.—Anantapur 290; Cuddapah 281; Kurnool 210.

War Technicians.—Malabar 77; Ramnad 57; South Arcot 22; Tanjore 22; Tinnevelly 15; Kurnool 1.

Corps of Indian Engineers.—Tinnevelly 4.

Air Force.—Tinnevelly 13.

Emergency Commissions (recommended).—Chingleput 8; Malabar 4; Trichinopoly 3; Tinnevelly 2; Cuddapah 1.

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Salvaging and Waste Paper Collection

In **Tinnevelly** District, the Scrap Iron and Steel and Waste Paper Sub-Committee reported the following collections for the month: The Tahsildar of Tinnevelly 300 lbs. of waste paper; the Tahsildar of Tenkasi, four gunny bags of waste paper; the Tahsildar of Nanguneri, 50 lbs. of scrap iron and one bag of waste paper; the Tahsildar of Tiruchendur, 4 bags of waste paper; the Deputy Tahsildar of Anjengo, 10 lbs. of waste paper. The Tahsildar of Tiruchendur realised Rs. 17-10-3 by the sale of waste paper and the Tahsildar of Tiruchendur realised Rs. 17-10-3 by the sale of waste paper and the Tahsildar of Tinnevelly realised Rs. 9-8-0 by the sale of iron plates.

In **Nilgiris** District, a sum of Rs. 150 was realized from the Ootacamund Salvage Depot by the sale of salvage.

At the instance of the Fortress Commander, Willingdon Island, Cochin, **Malabar** district, the Commissioner, Municipal Council, Cochin, opened a small store in the municipal office premises for the collection of scrap and waste materials—old newspapers, books, magazines, empty bottles, tin, etc. A sum of Rs. 100 was realized by sale of these articles. The Municipal subordinates helped in collection of materials.

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Civil Defence

In **Cuddapah** District, lighting restrictions were introduced.

In **Tinnevelly** district, a public meeting was held at Ponnagaram, when Air Raid Precaution measures were explained by two Post Wardens. A training course for Staff Wardens was held. Fifty wardens, who had completed their training, were presented with Sanads and Badges. Forty candidates were under training. An air raid practice was held and 'incidents' were staged. Twenty-four members of the Women's Air Raid Precaution Section rendered First Aid. The Inspector-General of Police inspected the Air Raid Precaution office and depots in Tuticorin. The Women's Section of the Air Raid Precaution, Tuticorin, held six public meetings. First Aid classes were conducted by Dr. (Miss) Asirvatham.

In **South Arcot** district, two air raid practices were held. The Deputy Inspector-General for Civil Defence was present at one of the practices. A public meeting was held at Chinnasalem, Kallakurichi, when a First Aid Committee was formed. Trenches were constructed. The following Air Raid Precaution personnel were appointed: 16 clerks for the control department; 19 first aiders; 3 clerks for First Aid Posts; 2 Ambulance attendants; 3 telephone operators; 40 bell-ringers; 5 messengers; 6 fire men; 1 instructor.

In **Malabar** District, all Air Raid Precaution arrangements were completed in Cochin. A.R.P. arrangements were made at Calicut, Tellicherry and Cannanore.

In **Nellore** District, brown-out was in force till 10 p.m. all through the month.

In **Salem** District, lighting restrictions were introduced in Salem Town and the Air Raid Precaution Scheme was launched.

In **Tanjore** District, more Air Raid Precaution measures were adopted in Negapatam.

In **West Godavari** District, lighting restrictions were enforced throughout the district.

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Propaganda Vans

The Provincial Propaganda Van toured in **Kurnool** district, attracting large crowds wherever it went. It had an even greater propaganda value under the routing system of films as there was variety.

In **Chittoor** district, the propaganda van toured in Vayalpad, Chandragiri, Kalahasti and Puttur taluks. The Deputy Inspector of Schools generally toured with the van and with the assistance of the Revenue Officials, teachers and locally influential people, carried on very valuable propaganda work. The paid lecturer toured with the van.

In **Cuddapah** district, the District Organizer held a propaganda meeting at Kalaspad village where the propaganda van No. M.S.C. 7161 was working. The van also visited other villages in the district.

In **Anantapur** district, propaganda van No. M.S.C. 7161 toured in the district and gave exhibitions in four villages. The exhibitions were much appreciated by the public.

In **Malabar** district, propaganda van No. M.S.C. 7162 toured in the district for the fourth time.

In **Coimbatore** district, the propaganda van toured in the district and visited many villages that were not visited previously.

In **Nellore** district, the propaganda van toured in Nellore, Gudur, Sulurpet and Venkatagiri taluks according to programme. With the help of the van, meetings were held in many villages.

In **Ramnad** District, the Provincial Propaganda Van was under repair and the District Propaganda Van toured in Ramnad, Sivakasi and Devakottai Divisions and carried out valuable propaganda work.

In **Salem** district, the District Health and Rural Uplift Propaganda Van continued to do good work.

In **Tanjore** district, propaganda van No. M.S.C. 6946 was used to carry on propaganda in the villages in Tanjore, Kumbakonam and Mayavaram divisions according to programme. Certain villages in Negapatam divisions also were visited.

The following vans operated in the districts during the month :—

(1) *Van No. M.S.C.* 3438 (*Simpson's gift van*) toured in two taluks of the North Arcot district (Gudiyattam and Arkonam taluks) visiting 26 villages from the 1st to 27th May, it took rest for three days from the 27th at Arkonam and proceeded to Saidapet for commencing its tour in Chingleput district during the next month. The tour was on the whole successful and there was no breakdown of the van during the period under review.

(2) *Van No. M.S.C.* 6946.—After completing its tour in the South Arcot district in the latter part of April, the van arrived in Tanjore on the 27th of April and after the usual period of rest, proceeded on its tour and visited about 30 villages till 15th May 1942. When touring from Sellur to Sikkil in the Negapatam taluk, the van was slightly damaged. It was under repair during the rest of the month.

(3) *Van No. M.S.C.* 6947.—During the whole of the month the van toured in the Coimbatore district and visited about 50 villages till 23rd May 1942.

(4) *Van No. M.S.C.* 6983.—This van toured in the East Godavari district from the beginning of the month till 25th May 1942 including the usual period of rest and then reached the West Godavari district where it finished Narasapur and Tanuku taluks at the end of the month visiting 20 villages.

(5) *Van No. M.S.C.* 6984.—This van was allotted exclusively to the Nellore district. After the usual period of rest at the commencement of the month, it covered the Nellore, Gudur, Sulurpet and Venkatagiri taluks during the period under review and visited 40 villages.

(6) *Van No. M.S.C.* 6985.—During the whole of the month it was touring in the Kistna district and visited 35 villages. Since the Guntur District Board van has been taken over by the Collector, the Government propaganda Van No. 6985 will in future be exclusively working in the Kistna district.

The District Board van will tour in the Guntur district exclusively. Arrangements are being made to supply the van with 16 m.m. films and any other equipment that may be necessary for it.

(7) *Van No. M.S.C.* 7160.—This van has been repaired and is again available for touring in the Ramnad district for another month.

(8) *Van No. M.S.C.* 7161.—It toured during the first week in the Anantapur district and in the Kurnool district during the rest of the month. It visited four places in the Anantapur district and about 25 places in the Kurnool district up to the 23rd.

(9) *Van No.* 7162.—During the whole of the month it toured in the South Kanara district and visited about 35 centres.

(10) *Van No. M.S.C.* 7468.—In the beginning of the month the van toured in the Vayalpad taluk of the Chittoor district visiting about 30 places and at most of the places visited, officials and non-officials took part in the programmes. One important feature of the programme was that the Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer accompanied the van to some important centres. Though, at first the van scared away some villagers who feared that they would be forcibly recruited and taken in the van for enlistment, yet after hearing the lectures delivered, their fears were dispelled and crowds assembled from far and near to see the pictures exhibited by the van. The van also toured in the Chandragiri, Kalahasti and Puttur taluks of the districts with success.

General.—Two more partially equipped vans have arrived and as soon as they are fully equipped, they will be sent to the districts which need them most for work in connection with the National War Front. During May these two vans carried on propaganda and made announcements in Madras City in connection with the inauguration of the National War Front on May 23. Other announcements connected with military practice were also made from the van in the city last month.

Three more vans have been purchased and they are being equipped at Calcutta. They are expected shortly. Every endeavour is being made to provide one van for each district for the National War Front.

Films.—Besides the films already in the vans the following ten new films received from the Film Advisory Board for circulation among the vans (both in Tamil and Telugu) were distributed to the vans:

"Young Veterans"; "Lofœten Islands"; "Handymen"; "Drums in the Desert"; "India Arms for Victory"; "Tools for the Job"; "Children from Overseas"; "War-time Factory"; "Armoured Cars"; "Made in India".

Another film "A.R.P. Warning" was supplied to Van No. MSC. 3438.

Slides.—The following slides were supplied to all the vans during the month:—

Sir Stafford Cripps at Air Port, Delhi; Sir Stafford Cripps with General Wavell and Col. Louis Johnson at the Air Port; Burma Governor inspecting Chinese troops; Chinese soldiers in Burma; Bomber Planes; Christmas gifts for Indian troops in the Middle East.

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In Trichinopoly district, the Women's Work Party did substantial work and prepared 3,247 articles of hospital requisites. Thirty-six pieces of knitted garments also were prepared for the use of troops.

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Victory Shop

The **Victory Shops** at Ootacamund, Coonoor and Kotagiri did excellent work. They contributed Rs. 3,000, Rs. 1,075 and Rs. 500, respectively to the War Fund.

The **Victory Cafe** at Kodaikanal contributed Rs. 1,500.

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Pin Badges and Victory Labels.

There was considerable improvement in the sale of pin badges in the districts. During the month of May, a sum of Rs. 214–14–0 was realised by the sale of these badges. The Seal of Victory labels, are being offered for sale in post offices.

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Education Department

Ten instructive pamphlets were distributed among the educational institutions. Seven applications received from the subordinate officers of the department for Commissions in the Civil Pioneer Force were forwarded to the Secretary, Provincial Selection Board, Madras. Three subordinate officers of the department were deputed for training at the Officers' Training School at Mhow. The Divisional Inspectors of Schools were directed to use their influence in furthering efforts to secure **War Technicians.**

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Evacuees From Burma

In Nellore district, about 400 evacuees from Burma were fed by the Gudur Red Cross at the Gudur Railway station.

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"Grow More Food"

With a view to encouraging the production of food crops in the presidency, the Madras Government have permitted all Government servants occupying Government quarters to break up the grounds of the compounds of such residences and grow food crops or vegetables thereon. They **will not be charged** anything as assessment or irrigation cess, but permission to take Government water should be obtained where such permission is otherwise necessary. The officers of the Agricultural Department will give such advice as is needed.

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Improved Paddy Seed

The Government have approved the proposal of the Director of Agriculture to introduce in the current year a scheme for the introduction of improved paddy seed and better cultural practices in rice cultivation on about 6 lakhs of acres in the Cauvery and Godavari Deltas of this Province at a net cost of nearly one lakh of rupees and to work it over a period of two years. They have accepted the grant of a subsidy of a quarter of the cost from the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

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Supply of Food during Emergency

The Government have had under consideration the question of the supply of cooked food to the inhabitants of the City during an emergency. Financial assistance and various assurances have been given to the proprietors of professional eating houses and it is confidently expected that these eating houses will continue to function in future. The Government also circularised a scheme for the supply of cold food packages, but it has been abandoned for lack of support. This was perhaps due to firms not requiring such assistance as they had arranged to feed their own staff. The Government have urged all firms to start such messes now and advise their employees patronising them. It is impossible for Government to cater to the varying needs of various castes and classes on simple lines, which are alone possible when attempting to feed a large city. A comparatively small mess can cater to the peculiar needs of its own people. The professional personnel of such a mess, being part of a compact organization, are likely to remain loyal to that organization. Government, however, recognize that the poorer classes, generally speaking, cannot organize such messes. Being financially helpless but essential to the well-being of the community, their simple tastes can and must be catered to. Financial assistance has been offered to

public-spirited people, recommended by the Mayor's City Safety Committee, who are willing to run eating-houses for feeding the very poor. It is hoped that greater use will be made of this assistance. The Government have also decided to finance the Salvation Army in opening three eating-houses in the poorest parts of the City and volunteers of all castes and creeds will be welcome to help to run these eating-houses. Hot meals at competitive prices will be provided. The co-operation of the Government and the people is essential to make such schemes a success.

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Women and I.M.S. In a press communiqué, dated 13th January 1942, the Government of India announced their decision to recruit to the Indian Medical Service, for the duration of the present emergency, a number of women medical graduates having experience in diseases of Ear, Nose and Throat, Radiology, Pathology, Ophthalmology or Anæsthetics. The Government are now pleased to announce their decision to dispense with the condition requiring experience in these special subjects. Women medical graduates, therefore, whether or not they have experience in any of these subjects, are now eligible for employment in the Indian Medical Service.

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Dependants of Andaman Convicts Many convicts in the Andaman Islands, particularly of the wage-earning class, were sending regular remittances to maintain their families in India. All such remittances will now have ceased as a result of the occupation of the Islands by the enemy, and it is possible that the families of convicts who were depending on this source of income are undergoing hardship. The Madras Government have decided to pay an allowance not exceeding Rs. 7 per mensem to the dependants of any convict who was not removed from the Andaman Islands before the enemy occupation, in respect of whom the Government are satisfied that real hardship has been caused by the cessation of remittances which were previously received from the convict. Instructions in the matter have been issued by Government to all District Magistrates and the Commissioner of Police.

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Indian Soldiers: Pay and Allowances The pay and allowances of ranks other than Indian Commissioned and King's Commissioned officers in the Indian Army have been during the period of the present war subject to increases on merits and have in fact been brought to a figure which enable the sepoy particularly when serving overseas to make a generous allotment to his family without any personal hardship.

It may be recalled that in 1940, the expatriation allowance over and above the basic pay of the sepoy of Rs. 16 per month was raised from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 and in areas where active operations were taking place the amount of batta was raised by Rs. 2 from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5. As a result, the Indian soldier on active service overseas, i.e., in the Middle East, Iraq or Burma, has been drawing Rs. 28 per month with proportionately higher rates for N.C.Os. and V.C.Os. For the army in India, an extra ration allowance of Rs. 2 per month for messing was granted per head per soldier which resulted in a considerable improvement in his feeding conditions. In addition, he has for some years past been entitled to Re. 1 per month deferred pay to be made available to him in a lump sum on release from military service.

Experience had shown that these scales of pay and allowances produced general satisfaction and are in fact regarded by the other ranks of the Indian Army as fully meeting their present needs.

Government had, however, had under serious consideration the position in regard to the future of these men who are serving their country in the Army when demobilisation ultimately took place and they returned to their homes. While the soldiers were encouraged to save part of their present earnings, it was obviously desirable that provision should be made for the difficult period that would follow their return, on discharge, to their homes with an abrupt diminution of income. It was, therefore, decided to increase the deferred pay by Rs. 2 per month for each soldier and to provide Re. 1 per month deferred pay for each enrolled non-combatant. In addition, therefore, to the Re. 1 per month already accumulating as deferred pay since 1932 for every combatant of other rank in the Indian Army, a further sum of Rs. 2 will be accumulated monthly as from April of this year and a sum of Re. 1 for non-combatants. Further, it was decided that sums equivalent to this increase in deferred pay, i.e., Rs. 2 per head per combatant and Re. 1 per head per non-combatant would be paid annually into a fund which would be utilized after the war for financing post-war welfare schemes.

A Reconstruction Committee is already in existence and that body will now be given the assurance of funds being available to implement plans which can be worked out in consultation with Provincial Governments.

These provisions ensure not only that each soldier leaves the Service with a moderate

sum in his possession on re-entering civil life, but will make immediate financial provision for the application of welfare schemes and post-war reconstruction.

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Trichy Radio Programmes A variety of programmes including talks, features and relays dealing with the War was broadcast in May from the Trichinolpy Centre of All-India Radio, with the growing Allied Offensive power and the organizaton of India for self-defence as the keynotes.

The talk on "Resources" in the series "The Grand Alliance" delivered by Mr. A. Hirudayaswami on 2nd May laid stress on the harnessing of the resources of the United Nations in their mighty war effort. The breaking up of the Nazi War Machine was discussed by Kham Bahadur V. Hamid Sultan Maricair in his talk "Rifts in the Armour" in the series "Close up" (9th May).

The re-enacting of a new Anschluss on the shores of the Pacific by Japan was the subject of Mr. J. S. Ramanujam Naidu's talk "The New Anschluss" in the series "Towards Harakiri," broadcast on 3rd May.

Mr. J. S. Kannappar dwelt on the magnificent offensive launched by the Russians in his talk (10th May) on the "Russian Furnace" in the series "Victory in the Making."

As an aspect of war as it affects us the need for closer contacts between civilians and the members of the fighting forces was described by Capt. G. T. B. Harvey, Director of War Publicity, in his talk broadcast from the Trichinopoly studios on the 15th May.

In the new series of fortnightly talks commenced on 6th May entitled "Axis Propaganda," Rev. Fr. L. M. Balam exposed the falsehoods broadcast by the Axis Radio. The talks are in Tamil and are very useful to the large number of listeners who do not understand English but believe vague rumours floating about, as to what the Tokyo Radio said, etc.

Short talks dealing with various aspects of A.R.P. are broadcast daily at 6–45 p.m.; the object of this series is to focuss the attention of the public on the importance of A.R.P. and to provide them with essential information. The daily topical talks included in the Rural programmes and the "special" talks dealing with subjects of war interest are amongst other popular items.

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Madras Radio Programmes The following is the monthly review of broadcast in connexion with War Propaganda ending May 1942, from the Madras Station of the All-India Radio:

During the month under review A.I.R., Madras, has broadcast its usual quota of news talks and weekly reviews of world events in the main languages of the province, viz., Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam, besides English. Among the general talks were included talks on civil defence in towns and villages, both in Tamil and in Telugu. A series of four interesting talks in the series "The Common Cause" were broadcast by Mr. R. D. Denniston, Mrs. H. M. Hood, Capt. G. T. B. Harvey and Mr. D. D. Warren. The first of them on "The Gentlemen of the Garrison" was intended to promote better understanding between the civilian population and their defenders.

Besides these there were two special talks on "I was an evacue" by Mr. T. R. V. Chari, wherein he related his experiences during his evacuation from Burma. They served the very useful purpose of removing certain misapprehensions regarding the plight of the Burmakn evacuees and their sufferings *en route* to India. The second was a talk by an Indian officer who had just returned from the Middle East, about the life of our forces in the Middle East.

The message of His Excellency the Viceroy broadcast from Delhi exhorting people to form the National War Front was relayed by the Madras centre of A.I.R. and later the message of His Excellency the Governor of Madras to the people of the Presidency on the occasion of the inauguration of the National War Front was broadcast on the 23rd May 1942. This was followed by a series of talks by eminent public men on the need for a joint effort to face the enemy. Dr. Sir K. V. Reddi, Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar and Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah broadcast talks in English while Mr. V. Chakkarai Chetty, the Mayor of Madras, and Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliar broadcast messages in Tamil. Another message by Sir P. T. Rajan which was broadcast from Trichinopoly studios of A.I.R. was relayed by Madras.

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Entertainment for Indian Troops Additional entertainment has been provided for Indian troops in the Middle East by two Indian concert parties recently raised in this country. One is a dancing troupe, with a well-known Indian film star in the lead, and the other a variety show, including a "magician."

Meanwhile, two other entertainment parties are being organized in the Punjab by provincial co-operative societies and are expected

shortly to leave India for overseas. Efforts are also being made by other provinces to organize village troupes for the entertainment of soldiers. In spite of this, the concert parties which it has been possible to raise and send on four overseas so far—brilliant, hard-working and highly appreciated as they have been—have not been nearly sufficient in numbers to meet the enormous demand for entertainment and many more can be profitably engaged.

Entertainers, actors and performers are, therefore, required in large numbers and those wishing to volunteer for tours among Indian troops overseas should send their applications to the A.C.E.S. Directorate, General Headquarters, Simla.

Another urgently required amenity for Indian troops overseas is a large supply of coloured posters to brighten the walls of hospitals and recreation huts. The Railway Board has already supplied hundreds, but those are not nearly enough and it is suggested that many large business firms in India might be able to supply bright, colourful posters and advertisements.

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